SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-74651; File No. SR-CBOE-2015-033)

April 6, 2015

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change Relating to the Deletion of Rule 2.50

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act"), <sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder, <sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that on March 24, 2015, Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated (the "Exchange" or "CBOE") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by the Exchange. The Exchange filed the proposal as a "non-controversial" proposed rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act<sup>3</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.<sup>4</sup> The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

I. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed</u> <u>Rule Change</u>

The Exchange is proposing to delete Rule 2.50 as it is no longer relevant.

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's website (<a href="http://www.cboe.com/AboutCBOE/CBOELegalRegulatoryHome.aspx">http://www.cboe.com/AboutCBOE/CBOELegalRegulatoryHome.aspx</a>), at the Exchange's Office of the Secretary, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

# II. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change</u>

In its filing with the Commission, the Exchange included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The Exchange has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

# A. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis</u> for, the Proposed Rule Change

### 1. Purpose

The purpose of this filing is to delete Rule 2.50 that sets forth the Exchange's policy with respect to the National Stock Exchange ("NSX"), previously a wholly owned subsidiary of CBOE Stock Exchange LLC ("CBSX").<sup>5</sup> Rule 2.50 states that as long as the Exchange is a partial owner of CBSX and CBSX controls NSX, the Exchange will assist NSX with the appropriate allocation of its resources in order to fulfill its self-regulatory obligations under the Exchange Act, as well as refrain from knowingly taking any actions related to NSX's activities that would prevent NSX's fulfillment of its self-regulatory obligations. The Exchange believes this rule is no longer relevant because CBSX no longer owns or is affiliated with NSX; as such, the Exchange believes the elimination of this rule from the CBOE Rulebook is appropriate.

The Commission recently approved an NSX rule filing that authorized the sale of NSX from CBSX to an unaffiliated third party.<sup>6</sup> The transaction was completed on February 18, 2015,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> CBSX, a former stock trading facility of CBOE, is owned in part by CBOE.

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 74270 (February 13, 2015), 80 FR 9286 (February 20, 2015) (order granting approval of SR-NSX-2014-017).

and CBSX no longer owns or is affiliated with NSX; thus, Rule 2.50 is no longer relevant and should be deleted in its entirety to avoid confusion.

# 2. <u>Statutory Basis</u>

The Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act") and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to the Exchange and, in particular, the requirements of Section 6(b) of the Act. Specifically, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Section 6(b)(5)<sup>8</sup> requirements that the rules of an exchange be designed to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

In particular, the Exchange believes that the deletion of Rule 2.50 is appropriate because it is obsolete now that CBSX no longer owns or is affiliated with NSX. Additionally, if the current rule text language remains, confusion could arise as to whether or not NSX is still a wholly owned subsidiary of CBSX.

## B. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition</u>

CBOE does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The Exchange does not believe the proposed rule change imposes any burden on intramarket competition because it applies to all market participants. Additionally, the Exchange does not believe the proposed rule change will impose any burden on intermarket competition as it is merely attempting to delete Rule 2.50 in its entirety as the rule text is no longer relevant because CBSX no longer owns or is affiliated with NSX. The Exchange does not propose any substantive

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

changes to the Exchange's operations or its rules that the Exchange believes could have any impact on competition (intermarket or intramarket).

C. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received from Members, Participants or Others</u>

The Exchange neither solicited nor received written comments on the proposed rule changes submitted in this filing.

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

The Exchange has filed the proposed rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act<sup>9</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.<sup>10</sup> Because the foregoing proposed rule change does not: (1) significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (2) impose any significant burden on competition; and (3) become operative for 30 days from the date on which it was filed, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate, it has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act<sup>11</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(6)<sup>12</sup> thereunder. At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission will institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be approved or disapproved.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

<sup>17</sup> CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6). In addition, Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) requires the Exchange to give the Commission written notice of the Exchange's intent to file the proposed rule change, along with a brief description and text of the proposed rule change, at least five business days prior to the date of filing of the proposed rule change, or such shorter time as designated by the Commission. The Exchange has satisfied this requirement.

### IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

#### Electronic comments:

- Use the Commission's Internet comment form (<a href="http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml">http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml</a>); or
- Send an e-mail to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number SR-CBOE-2015-033 on the subject line.

### Paper comments:

 Send paper comments in triplicate to Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-CBOE-2015-033. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's Internet website (<a href="http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml">http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml</a>). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for website viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Copies of the filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. All comments received will be posted without change; the

Commission does not edit personal identifying information from submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File Number SR-CBOE-2015-033 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the <u>Federal Register</u>].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.  $^{13}$ 

Brent J. Fields Secretary

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).